

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A solvent system for use in oil and gas operations, the solvent system comprising:  
an alcohol that is water soluble;  
an ester that is water and oil soluble;  
and a solvent that is at least one of a ketone that is water and oil soluble and a cyclic ether that is water and oil soluble.
2. The solvent system of claim 1 in which the solvent is a ketone.
3. The solvent system of claim 1 in which the solvent comprises a C<sub>3</sub> – C<sub>10</sub> ketone.
4. The solvent system of claim 3 in which the solvent comprises methyl ethyl ketone.
5. The solvent system of claim 3 in which the alcohol is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system, the ester is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system and the methyl ethyl ketone is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.
6. The solvent system of claim 1 in which the alcohol is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system, the ester is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system and a ketone is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.
7. The solvent system of claim 6 further comprising an aqueous acid.
8. The solvent system of claim 7 in which the aqueous acid is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.
9. The solvent system of claim 10 in which the acid is hydrochloric acid.

10. The solvent system of claim 6 in which the ester is a  $C_2 - C_{10}$  ester.
11. The solvent system of claim 1 in which the solvent is a cyclic ether.
12. The solvent system of claim 11 in which the solvent comprises a  $C_3 - C_{10}$  cyclic ether.
13. The solvent system of claim 12 in which the solvent comprises tetrahydrofuran.
14. The solvent system of claim 13 in which the alcohol is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system, the ester is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system and the tetrahydrofuran is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.
15. The solvent system of claim 14 further comprising an aqueous acid.
16. The solvent system of claim 15 in which the aqueous acid is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.
17. The solvent system of claim 16 in which the acid is hydrochloric acid.
18. The solvent system of claim 1 in which the alcohol is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system, the ester is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system and the solvent is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.
19. The solvent system of claim 18 in which the solvent comprises methyl ethyl ketone and tetrahydrofuran.
20. The solvent system of claim 18 further comprising an aqueous acid.

21. The solvent system of claim 20 in which the aqueous acid is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.
22. The solvent system of claim 21 in which the acid is hydrochloric acid.